

## archive

## LOOKING BACK IN REPORTS &amp; PICT

## 10 years ago

**Gemmell exhibition opens at Gallery 75**

WELL-KNOWN artist Michael Gemmell has bought his exhibition Water, Light and Stone to Limerick.

The 32-year-old artist, originally from Coleraine, opened his solo show in Gallery 75.

The opening was attended by well-known Limerick artists and art lovers, including John Shinnors, who recently sold over €250,000 worth of his paintings on the opening night of his exhibition at the Limerick City Gallery of Art.

Michael Gemmell is no newcomer to the world of art: at the age of 14, he left school and found a job as a studio assistant in a Dublin graphic studio.

"His boss, Peter Coyle, took an interest in his artistic talent and sent him to night classes at the National College of Art.

"During his time, he painted the Dublin Camera Club, and attended a window display course in the afternoons," a spokesman for the exhibition said.

Michael's family moved to Shannon where he concentrated on his painting career and attended the College of Art in Limerick.

He spent most of his time outdoors painting the landscape.

When he left college, he opened a sign-writing and screen-printing studio in Shannon and group exhibitions in Limerick and Clare.

Michael moved back to Dublin and developed his business in the world of interior design, travelling to the United States, Germany and Spain.

**Shooting the first feature film ever shot entirely in Limerick area**

THE first feature film to be shot entirely in the Limerick area is set to roll on November 4.

It is the Real Thing, which marks the debut of Limerick-born writer/director David Gleeson.

He won much recognition for a series of short film, financed by his savings from working on an oil rig in the Arctic Circle.

The story concerns a hapless civil servant who gets more than he bargained for when he moves into an apartment with a gay fashion student and becomes a star on the catwalk.

Michael Legge, who figured prominently in Angela's Ashes, will return to Limerick once again to play the lead role of Shane Butler.

Alan Leech, tipped as one of Ireland's hottest newcomers will play opposite him in the role of Vincent.

Frank Kelly will also play a major supporting part. Casting is ongoing and auditions will take place in locations throughout Limerick city in the coming weeks.

Nathalie Lichtenhaeler, German-born producer of The Real Thing, expressed her delight to be shooting in Limerick.

"We have only just arrived and already we are overwhelmed by the enthusiastic reception from the businesses, the people and the civic institutions in Limerick City," she told the Limerick Leader newspaper this week.

## 20 years ago

**Rebel councillors slated for Somali 'gimmick'**

THE revel city councillors will not be wearing their robes of office on Friday after all, during their Somali fundraising effort.

This follows a row at the City Council last night, when other councillors criticised the attempt by Cllr John Ryan, Ald John Gilligan and Ald Sean Griffin to put on their robes of office for the first and only time, to draw attending to their 'buy a free lunch for Somalia' campaign.

Cllr Tim Leddin led the charge against the revels, saying he always wore the robes with dignity and pride, and he objected to what he called "this gimmick" by the councillors to draw attention to themselves.

He said he would not allow the robes of office to be reduced to this

"This is not being done to create controversy," Cllr Ryan went on, "This is a genuine attempt to get Limerick to do something for the starving people of Somalia."

**New site for city dump**

A 200-acre site, considered suitable for a new city tiphead, has been identified by the Corporation and Coillte, at Knockshanvo, Co Clare, nine miles from the city.

Jack Higgins, city manager, told a special meeting of the City Council last evening that following an environmental study and the planning process, the site would be available to the Corporation in June 1994.

The identification of the site was welcomed by Council, but reservations were expressed about the time element.

LEADER  
memo

Good to go: A Morris Minor 1100 outside the Lime

## 30 years ago

**Hennessy claims FF fight by single vote**

MR Michael Hennessy, 35, of Woodview Park, Limerick, is poised this Friday to take a seat on Limerick County Council. In a cliff-hanging encounter this Thursday night he won the Fianna Fail nomination for the vacancy caused by the death of Cllr. Con McGrath, Fine Gael.

ALL 53 delegates turned up at Patrickswell for the selection and

nomination, insurance Cumann, a teacher of C ANY though had of g dashed by r and East that the ca Caherdavin. AS the deleg the hall, Mr his intention said that he Mr Dillon.